

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 01141 080441Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AGRE-00 COME-00 AID-05 EB-08
TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 /087 W
-----027408 080447Z /13

R 080400Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8406
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1141

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOCI, ECON PGOV LA
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT RICE SALES TO VIENTIANE RESIDENTS

REF: VIENTIANE 1104 (NOTAL)

1. THE FOOD CRISIS FOR RESIDENTS OF VIENTIANE HAS BEEN
SOMEWHAT ALLEVIATED BY THE INAUGURATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT
POLICY OF RICE SALES WHEREBY EACH LAO CITIZEN ABOVE THE AGE
OF THREE YEARS IS ALLOWED TO PURCHASE FROM THE GOVERNMENT
12 KILOS OF RICE PER MONTH AT A PRICE OF 50 KIP PER KILO
(\$0.25 AT THE OFFICIAL RATE, \$0.03 AT THE FREE MARKET RATE).
THE RICE IS REPORTEDLY GOOD QUALITY STICKY RICE (10 PERCENT
BROKEN).

2. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES BENEFIT FROM AN EXISTING
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RICE SALES PROGRAM WHEREBY THEY CAN PURCHASE UP TO
24 KILOS OF RICE PER PERSON AT 50 KIP PER KILO.
THIS RICE IS POOR QUALITY STICKY RICE (50 PERCENT
BROKEN). "CAPITALISTS" (MERCHANTS) DO NOT CURRENTLY
QUALIFY TO PURCHASE RICE UNDER EITHER OF THE ABOVE
PROGRAMS. LAO CITIZENS EMPLOYED BY DIPLOMATIC MIS-
SIONS ARE PROHIBITED FROM PURCHASING RICE UNLESS

THEY PRESENT A NOTE FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS STATING
THAT THEY ARE NOTRECEIVING RICE FROM THEIR EMPLOYEERS.

3. THE NEW RICE SALES BY THE GOVERNMENT TO NON-
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES BEGAN ON A SMALL SCALE DURING
THE LAST WEEKEND OF JULY , BUT GENERAL SALES DID NOT
BEGIN UNTIL THE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 6-7.

4. COMMENT: GIVEN RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF
RICE FROM THAILAND (REFTEL) AND THE FAILING 1977 RICE
CROP, THE FOOD SITUATION IN VIENTIANE REMAINS PRECARIOUS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RICE, SALES, FOOD SHORTAGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENTI01141
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770284-0306
Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770884/aaaacsxv.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOVERNMENT RICE SALES TO VIENTIANE RESIDENTS
TAGS: SOCI, ECON, PGOV, SENV, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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